Import of raw sugar

1616. SHRI SHANTI TYAGI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal to import raw sugar for reprocessing by sugar factories and distribution through the public distribution system is being considered by Government; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) and (b) The Government have not yet taken any decision on the proposal to import raw sugar for reprocessing into white sugar by some sugar factories in the country.

Export of Fish

1617. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what was the quantity of fish exported during the last three years; and

(b) the amount earned thereby?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): (a) and (b) The quantity and value of exports of marine products during the last three years were:

Year	Quantity (Tonnes)	Value (Rs. crores)
1982-83	78175	361.36
1983-84	92691	373.02
1984-85	86187	384.29

Steps to meet balance of payment difficulties

1618. SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state what steps Government have taken or propose to take in the matter of major thrust commodities for promoting exports to meet the balance of payment difficulties, including the role of Export Promotion Councils, export houses, SSI units, advance duty free licensing, handicrafts, handlooms, cottage industries and garment sector etc.?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): The policy frame-work evolved for promoting exports of major thrust commodities include measures to increase supply availability for exports and improvement in the quality of the goods. Action has also been taken to strengthen institutional back up and infrastructure, for promoting exports of these commodities.

Turnover of retail outlets under National Textile Corporation

1619. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present number of retail outlets with the National Textile Corporation to push through the textile goods manufactured by the mills belonging to National Textile Corporation; and

(b) what is the total turnover of all the retail outlets every year during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN): (a) At present there are 413 showrooms of NTC throughout country.